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ACTION FOR WEST AFRICA REGION REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

- USAID funded regional Project over 5 years
- 21 countries:
 - 15 ECOWAS countries
 - Cameroon, Chad et Mauritania
 - Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Sao Tome & Principe



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GOALS OF AWARE-RH

- Best approaches in FP/RH and child survival disseminated
- Increased regional advocacy for policy change
- Increased capacity of regional institutions & networks
- Health sector reform models developed and disseminated



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PARTNERSHIP IN REFORMING THE LAW

- **USAID**
- **Parliamentarian Network**
- **Ministry of Health**
- **WHO/TOGO**
- **UNFPA**



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BACKGROUND

- Poor maternal and neonatal health & FP indicators
- 1920 French colonial law repressed:
 - Information about contraception
 - Family planning
- Existence of a reproductive health (RH) model law
- Attempt to adapt and adopt the RH law for three years



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ACTIONS TAKEN

- Regional initiatives to strengthen parliamentary networks in West and Central Africa
- Support to the Togolese Parliamentarian Network
- Development of an advocacy tool (REDUCE-ALIVE)



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REDUCE-ALIVE APPROACH

- Use of computerized models
- Analysis of international and national data
- Estimation of consequences of inadequate maternal and neonatal health services



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CONSEQUENCES OF POOR MATERNAL AND NEONATAL HEALTH

- Maternal and neonatal mortality
- Maternal disability (short & long term)
- Productivity losses



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REDUCE-ALIVE ADVOCACY PROCESS

- Stimulates policy dialogue on MNH
- Mobilizes decision makers to reduce maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality



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PROCESS OF REFORMING THE 1920 FRENCH LAW

- Adaptation of the RH law to the Togo context
- Validation of the adapted law by stakeholders
- Uptake of the law by the Ministry of Health
- Submission of the law to the Parliament
- Implementation of advocacy activities



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ADVOCACY PROCESS

- Meetings with the Chairman of the Parliament and the heads of the Commissions
- Meetings with the Minister of Health and his advisors
- Presentation of the REDUCE-ALIVE to Parliament in October 2006



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ADVOCACY OUTCOMES

- Unanimous adoption of the RH law in December 2006
- Galvanization of the advocacy team that led to:
 - Drafting of the regulatory texts
 - Submission of draft regulatory texts to the Executive Branch
- Intensive advocacy to get these texts adopted



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THANK YOU